

Truth.

To the Editor of THE ADVOCATE.

Nature proclaims truth in everything. Reformers must keep close to nature if they expect to convince the multitude and lead them to victory. Deception and ambiguity must be swept away, and the sunlight of heaven must illumine all our social questions.

There is no such a thing as cheap money or dear money, honest money or dishonest money. Money is money. It is an ideal thing. It is not wealth. It is an evidence that its possessor, if he has gained it honestly, has parted with services or commodities equal in value to the denomination stamped upon it. So instead of being wealth, it is the absence of wealth. Money does not exist in nature as a thing, it is a mere counter of values; yet the idea comes from nature. When God gave the people the custom of barter, He taught them to count values—to use money, i. e., to number the value of things. The ancient Greeks had the right idea when they called their money *numerata*, i. e., to number. Money is the arithmetic of values. So the Arab was right when he said "arithmetic came from God." So it was that the first arithmetic ever used was mental (money) numbering, when men first commenced to barter. The first written (money) numbering (arithmetic) was the red feathers and shells of the hunting and fishing period, which were counters, and as useful money as gold or silver counters (money).

Now, a counter cannot be honest or dishonest, cheap or dear. It is a counter, or it is not a counter. The custom of the use of money, which is a natural right, may be so prostituted as to monopolize these counters, make them scarce or abundant, rob industry of the fruits of its toil, and thwart the will of heaven by taking from him that sweats and giving to him that does not sweat.

A recent writer in the ADVOCATE says: "Intrinsic value is natural power in the thing itself to supply human want or necessity. Air has the greatest intrinsic value. Water has great intrinsic value; so also have food, clothing, medicines, dwellings, light, heat, music, liberty—civil and religious, and whatever else adds in itself a social or individual blessing. Money in itself fills no such a condition."

Air, water, food, nor any of the things mentioned have intrinsic value. The intrinsic value idea has been so often exploded in the columns of the ADVOCATE that it would be idle to notice it again. Air has no intrinsic value, but it has intrinsic properties. So also of everything in nature. Understanding this, men cannot be deluded with the cry of intrinsic value in gold money.

The People's party does not have to resort to sophistry, ambiguity or falsehood to maintain its principles. These are the stock arguments of plutocracy.

Theodore Parker says: "Truth is a part of the celestial machinery of God, and whosoever puts that machine in gear for humanity hath the Almighty to turn the wheel." The farmers' alliance, the knights of labor, the trade unions, the anti-monopolists, and last but not least, the old greenback guard, have placed this machinery in gear for humanity, and God Almighty is now turning the wheel, and we will sweep on to victory in spite of the powers of darkness.

H. W. MILLER.

In A Nut-Shell.

National Economist, September 17.

Two brutes in human form mauling each other for a purse of \$45,000. The fight witnessed by thousands of other thugs, none of whom ever did an honest

day's work of productive labor in their lives, but who, nevertheless, poured out money like water, some of them traveling clear across the country, for the purpose of witnessing the brutal sight. Railroads granting these gentry special rates. Newspapers spending hundreds or thousands of dollars for telegraphic news of the exhibition, and devoting whole pages of valuable space to illustrating and explaining the disgusting details of the brutalizing affair. Other non-producing drones—sporting characters—in all parts of the country, staking an aggregate of perhaps millions of unearned dollars on the outcome of the contest.

Workingmen in a struggle with a republican millionaire corporation against a reduction of wages shot to death by an organized band of assassins, who do murder for the insignificant sum of \$4 per day and expenses. Other laboring men battling with a democratic millionaire corporation against the employment of convict labor, meeting death at the hands of "citizen soldiers," commonly called "militia." Three million able-bodied, willing-minded workingmen out of employment, and even J. J. Ingalls declaring, in a public speech, that "ten million people in this country are without enough to eat from one year's end to the other."

Honest labor starving. Non-producing brutes reveling in riotous splendor. These are some of the signs of radically rotten economic conditions. These are some of the reasons why the "labor problem" will not down. These are some of the reasons why the noblest-minded and best-hearted men and women of the country have espoused the cause of labor and these are some of the signs on civilization's highway which imperatively command a regeneration of economic conditions ere the car of progress will be permitted to proceed.

Are Harrison and Reid at Outs?

The Voice, September 22, 1892.

In the Weekly Tribune, of New York, August 24, edited by Whitelaw Reid, republican candidate for vice president, appears an advertisement in large display type that runs as follows (we omit only the name of the dealer and his street address):

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In view of the plank in the republican platform expressing sympathy "for all

wise and legitimate efforts to lessen and prevent the evils of intemperance and promote morality," we suggest that as a solution of this problem an advisory committee be appointed to determine which brand of whisky will best "promote morality," and such republican moralists as Bishop Vincent, Dr. H. K. Carroll, Mrs. J. Ellen Foster and Elliott F. Shepard be put on the committee.

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